



WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1 1. A computing system, wherein applications access databases to obtain
2 data and the databases are updated from time to time and the applications require
3 consistent data from the databases even while an update is occurring, the computing
4 system comprising:

5 a first database;

6 a second database, wherein the first database and second database a substantive
7 copies of each other outside of an update period;

8 a database indicator that indicates one of the first and second databases as a live
9 database and the other one of the first and second databases as a load database;

10 a query router for routing queries from application to the live database; and

11 a router switcher for switching the database indicator such that the live database
12 becomes the load database and the load database becomes the live database.

1 2. The computing system of claim 1, wherein the queries from an
2 application to the live database are in the form of SQL queries.

1 3. The computing system of claim 1, further comprising an update router
2 for routing updates from an updater to the load database.

1 4. The computing system of claim 3, wherein the updates from an updater
2 to the load database are in the form of SQL statements.

1 5. The computing system of claim 1, further comprising an update cache
2 that stores updates from the updater including logic to initiate update of the live database
3 with the stored updates when the live database becomes the load database.

1 6. A method for providing consistent information from a database
2 management system comprising a plurality of databases, comprising:
3 receiving a request for a first information item by said database management system;
4 processing said request by a first database of said database management system,
5 when said request is for a read operation;
6 processing said request by a second database of said database management system,
7 when said request is for a write operation; and

8 following a database update period, switching the roles of the first database and the
9 second database such that the database that processed reads then processes writes
10 and the database that processed writes then processes reads.

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